REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the most recent Office Action, claims 1-14 were examined. Claims 11-14 were subject to a restriction and were withdrawn from consideration based on a constructive election of claims 1-10. Claims 1-10 are allowed. In response, claims 11-14 are cancelled from the application without prejudice. Accordingly, claims 1-10 are pending in the present application. No new matter is added.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough search and consideration of the present application, and gratefully acknowledges the allowance of claims 1-10.

Claims 11-14 are cancelled from the application to permit allowance of the application. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application for claims 11-14.

Having addressed all outstanding issues in the present application, Applicants respectfully request notice of allowance for claims 1-10. Applicants further respectfully request that any further issues in the application be addressed through a telephonic conference with the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 20, 2004:

Brendan J. Kennedy

Name of applicant, assignee or Registered Representative

0: /

May 20, 2004

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,

Brendan J. Kennedy

Registration No.: 41,890

OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP

1180 Avenue of the Americas

New York, New York 10036-8403

Telephone: (212) 382-0700

BJK:gl